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POW Camp for Americans at Huan-dong

1. In July 1952 a prisoner-of-war camp was at Huan-dong (125-49, 39-07) (YD-4333), in seven buildings which formerly housed a brick factory. On 5 July, there were at this camp approximately 300 American POW's, 100 of whom were United States Air Force personnel. The seven buildings of the camp were not camouflaged and were so grouped that they formed a rectangular pattern, with an interval of about five meters between buildings. The sides were dark yellow brick and the roofs were gray slate. Four of the buildings measured 20 by 10 by 7 meters with walls 50 centimeters thick, and the other three buildings measured 15 by 9 by 7 meters with walls 40 centimeters thick. The American POW's were housed in the four larger buildings, and the other three buildings were used for storage, cooking, and quarters for the guards.
2. The POW's were not assigned specific jobs, but sometimes they were taken under guard to the hills north of the POW camp to cut wood for the kitchen. On these occasions there was one guard for each ten POW's. All POW's wore North Korean army fatigue uniforms and canvas training shoes. The floors of the POW quarters were covered with straw mats, and one North Korean army blanket was issued to every two POW's. Both the mats and the blankets were occasionally exposed to sunlight, but no disinfectants were used. No other sanitary measures were in evidence in the camp. Each POW was given 1.7 hops¹ per day of cooked food mixed with rice, corn, and salt. Meals were served at 8 a.m., 12 noon, and 7 p.m. As a result of inadequate food and unsanitary conditions, many of the POW's were in poor health.

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3. The POW camp was guarded by approximately seventy North Korean soldiers, organized into about two platoons and armed with PPSH's, M-1's, and other types of rifles. Thirteen guards were always on duty at any given time, with one in front and one behind each of the four buildings housing POW's and with five roving guards. At the foot of the hill about 50 meters north of the camp buildings there was a light machine gun emplacement in a dugout with one soldier assigned to it.

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POW Camp for ROK Personnel at Sunan

4. In late July a prisoner-of-war camp, housing 1,000 ROK POW's wearing old North Korean army uniforms, was at the site of the former Sunan (125-41, 39-12) (YD-3242) High School, next to a cemetery one kilometer northeast of the Sunan Railroad Station (YD-3242).² This POW camp was at Kirim-ni,³ P'yongyang, until 20 July 1952, when it moved to its present location because of United Nations bombing. The Sunan camp site included two buildings: the main building, a two-story structure, 120 meters long, 10 meters wide, and 10 meters high; and the second building, a one-story structure, formerly the high school auditorium, 30 meters long, 20 meters wide, and 7 meters high. There were eighteen rooms in the two buildings. The POW camp was enclosed by barbed wire and guarded by North Korean soldiers armed with PPSH's.
5. In the morning at eight o'clock the POW's were formed into squads of thirty men each and given military drill on a field behind the POW camp by guards armed with PPSH's. The training guards were commanded by a North Korean army junior lieutenant, armed with a pistol. During the training hours five soldiers guarded the drill field.

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1. Comment. One hop equals 0.3 pints or 0.18 litres.

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2. Comment. POW camp Number 13 at Sunan (125-41, 39-12) (YD-323420) was listed among the names of POW camps in North Korea submitted by the Communist delegation to the United Nations Command Armistice Delegation on 17 July 1952.

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3. Comment. According to POW Camp Number 5, with 1,200 ROK POW's, was in the former Kirim-ni Primary School in Kirim-ni, P'yongyang, in mid-June 1952. a POW camp with about 1,000 ROK POW's was in the building of the former Peoples' School Number 14 at Kirim-ni, P'yongyang, on 3 July 1952. These reports may refer to the same Kirim-ni POW camp as the one mentioned here.

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